AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for determining and/or positioning a digital sensor of a dental X-ray apparatus, comprising:

- an input and output device for interactive control of the system,

- a first storage area, in which ~~the~~ a digital image of ~~the~~ an area to be examined, is saved,

- a second storage area, in which ~~at least one template image of the sensor is~~ a plurality of template images corresponding to different sensors of the dental X-ray apparatus are stored, and

- a processing unit, which places ~~the~~ a selected template image of a ~~at least one~~ sensor simulatively on the area to be examined of the digital image such that when a real X-ray image is created, the area to be examined is depicted completely and precisely,

- wherein the processing unit has means for indicating the sensor and the position of the sensor in the digital image.

2. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in claim 1, further comprising a user interface enabling interactive selection of the template ~~image~~ images and/or the area to be examined.

3. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in claim 1, ~~comprising in that~~ wherein a user ~~preferably~~ interactively specifies the area to be examined in the digital image, and the processing unit ~~is capable of specifying~~ specifies, ~~preferably by iterative simulation,~~ that template image which covers the area to be examined as completely as possible.

4. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in claim 1, wherein the processing unit ~~is capable of determining~~ determines the position of the template ~~image~~ images in one or more dimensions.

5. (Previously Amended) A system as defined in claim 1, further comprising a computer interface to the X-ray apparatus, via which presettings determined by simulation are transferred, while the X-ray apparatus permits the creation of a digital image only when ~~these~~ said presettings apply.

6. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in claim 1, further comprising a computer interface, via which an existing digital image of ~~the~~ a patient to be X-rayed is transferred to the first storage area.

7. (Previously Amended) A system as defined in claim 1, wherein the apparatus comprises a dental X-ray-unit.

8. (Previously Amended) A system as defined in claim 1, wherein the system comprises a PC controlled by software.

9. (Currently Amended) A template for specifying a digital X-ray sensor, ~~wherein~~ said template comprising a shape and size of an X-ray image ~~is created using an assigned~~ in the form of a digital X-ray sensor, said size and shape of said template being scaled up by a factor corresponding to the X-ray image for displaying said X-ray image.

10. (Previously Amended) A template as defined in claim 9, comprising a property making it possible to pass the template over an X-ray image.

11. (Previously Amended) A template as defined in claim 10, comprising a digitally stored size and orientation which is adapted, when called on, in accordance with actual dimensions of a digital X-ray image.

12. (Previously Amended) A template as defined in claim 10, comprising a frame of transparent material.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of specifying and/or positioning a digital sensor of a dental X-ray apparatus using templates corresponding in size and shape to ~~the~~ a sensor image, comprising:

- a first step, in which ~~the~~ a X-ray image is selected, this ~~preferably~~ being an X-ray image of ~~the~~ a patient to be examined,

- a second step, during which ~~the~~ an area to be imaged is specified, and

- a third step, during which there is selected, from a plurality of templates each of which is assigned to sensors of the digital X-ray apparatus, that template which covers the area specified in the second step most precisely.

14. (Previously Amended) A method as defined in claim 13, wherein the third step is carried out automatically or interactively.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for specifying and/or positioning a digital sensor of a dental X-ray apparatus, using templates corresponding in size and shape to an image of the sensor, comprising

- a first step, in which ~~the~~ a X-ray image is selected, this ~~preferably~~ being an X-ray image of ~~the~~ a patient to be examined,

- a second step, during which there is selected, from a plurality of templates each assigned to a sensor of the digital X-ray apparatus, that template which should be used to cover ~~the~~ an area to be X-rayed,

- and a third step, during which the selected template is moved across the X-ray image for purposes of control and ~~the~~ an imaging area appertaining to the selected template is thus revealed, the second and third steps being iteratively continued until a suitable combination of sensor and imaging area is displayed.

16. (Previously Amended) A method as defined in claim 13, wherein the X-ray image and the templates are managed in digital form.

17. (Previously Added) A method as defined in claim 15, wherein the X-ray image and the templates are managed in digital form.

18. (Currently Amended) A method, for creating a number of partial images using ~~at least one sensor~~ a plurality of sensors, comprising, a first step in which several areas to be X-rayed are selected from an image, and a second step in which there is effected automatic selection and display of ~~the~~ at least one sensor suitable for creating ~~the~~ a respective image.

19. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim ~~17~~ 18, wherein ~~that~~ the image is a digital panoramic radiogram, which is displayed on a digital display unit and refers individually to the patient.

20. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim ~~17~~ 18, wherein a suitable sequence for making ~~the~~ images is automatically proposed, account being taken of particular conditions of ~~the~~ a respective X-raying situation, ~~namely~~ said account being at least one of the order of ~~the~~ images to be created, ~~the~~ operation of positioning the X-ray unit ~~and/or the~~ and selection of a sensor type.

21. (Previously Amended) A data medium, containing a data structure that is capable of running on a computer to carry a method as defined claim 13.

22. (Previously Added) A data medium, containing a data structure that is capable of running on a computer to carry a method as defined claim 15.

23. (Previously Added) A data medium, containing a data structure that is capable of running on a computer to carry a method as defined claim 18.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached drawing sheet includes new Fig. 2, which illustrates the various components recited in claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 12, as requested in the Office Action.

Attachment: New Drawing Sheet